



Austin City Council MINUTES

For SPECIAL CALLED MEETING - SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATED TO FINANCIAL PLAN

Council Chambers, 307 West Second Street, Austin, Texas

Mayor Cooke called to order the special called meeting of the Council, noting the absence of Councilmember Urdy. Mayor Cooke noted the purpose of the meeting was to consider items related to passage of the 1989-90 Financial Plan.

Motion

Mayor Pro Tem Shipman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Humphrey, to pass through FIRST READING ONLY the operating budget for 1989-90 as presented by the City Manager.

Motions to Amend

Motion

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Humphrey to amend the pay plan to a 3.5% pay raise for all employees effective January, 1990, with a minimum of \$750.00 per year.

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell, after discussion, said he would like to see the figures it would cost to move the pay raise back for each two week pay period, using one time money.

Friendly Amendment - Withdrawn

Councilmember Humphrey made and then withdrew a friendly amendment to move the date of the pay raise from January 31, 1990 to January 14, 1990. He withdrew his motion when Council requested more figures.

Roll Call on Motion

6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent

Motion

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Shipman to reinstate the Youth Delinquency Program for \$234,257.00, open the health clinics on Saturday for \$160,846.00, restore library hours for \$217,207.00, and restore Nature Center position for \$5,561.00; money funding this will come from increase in property tax collection

rate of 1% for \$543,213.00 and 9-1-1 savings of \$84,000.00

Friendly Amendment - Not Accepted

Councilmember Humphrey offered a friendly amendment to lower the budget of the Travis Central Appraisal District by \$143,000. The amendment was not accepted.

Roll Call on Motion

6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent

Motion

Mayor Pro Tem Shipman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Barnstone to add \$41,767 to increase the maintenance budget of the Parks and Recreation Department with money funding this in the same amount to come from reduction of lighting of parks out of the City. Motion passed by a 6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent.

Motion

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Shipman to take \$539,808 from the ending balance and put it into street maintenance.

Friendly Amendment - Not Accepted

Mayor Cooke offered a friendly amendment to hold the amount to \$300,000. The amendment was not accepted.

Roll Call on Motion

6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent

Motion

Councilmember Barnstone made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Humphrey to delete the bus at Zilker Park for a savings of \$24,500 and restore security at City Hall in an amount of \$68,548. Motion passed by a vote of 4-2 with Mayor Pro Tem Shipman and Councilmember Carl-Mitchell voting No. Councilmember Urdy absent.

Motion

Councilmember Nofziger made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Barnstone to allow \$100,000 for Regional Habitat, \$30,000 for Earth Day Birthday, and restore the OMBA position for \$24,463, with \$142,966

coming from Appraisal District savings and \$12,000 from Planning Department computer.

Friendly Amendment

Mayor Cooke offered a friendly amendment to restore the OMBA position with \$24,463 from the Civic Center Reserve Fund and hold until later the funding for Earth Day Birthday.

Part of Friendly Amendment Accepted

Councilmember Nofziger accepted the funding for OMBA but did not, at that time, accept holding until later the funding for Earth Day Birthday.

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell suggested the question be divided. Mayor Pro Tem Shipman said that in these difficult economic times money for Earth Day Birthday was not a priority. After more discussion Council agreed to hold funding for Earth Day Birthday until a later time. (Third reading.)

Friendly Amendment

Mayor Cooke offered the following friendly amendment to the motion: Designate \$25,000 for HOB0, \$25,000 for Austin/San Antonio Corridor Council, \$10,000 for a lobbyist for special session in the near future, \$75,000 for Municipal Court, of which \$12,000 would be jury trial and the one time expenditures would be \$4,000 for security entrance for the judges and \$59,116 for a warrant enforcement crackdown which would be paid for by elimination of vehicle replacement in the same amount of money.

There was discussion concerning HOB0 funding and Mayor Pro Tem Shipman stated, "Mayor, let me make a suggestion, since this is a social service provider, that we make a commitment to add \$25,000 to the social service funding and that that is earmarked for HOB0. That will put them into the social service funding cycle." Mayor Cooke said, "That would be fine".

There was debate concerning the \$10,000 for a lobbyist and Mayor Cooke eliminated that from his friendly amendment.

Mayor Cooke's Friendly Amendment Re-Stated

\$25,000 HOB0; \$25,000 for Austin/San Antonio Corridor out of bed tax; \$75,000 for Municipal Court, which would include additional jury trial docket, security entrance and warrant enforcement program to have City Marshal's work to have our warrant back-load reduced.

Roll Call on Motion With Friendly Amendments

6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent

Motion

Councilmember Barnstone made a motion to cut the Planning Department computer by \$115,000 and add Advanced Life Support System. Mayor Cooke seconded the motion.

Friendly Amendment

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell said he would like to look for recurring money for this.

Councilmember Barnstone accepted the friendly amendment, he said he made the motion as he did, following the Mayor's request to balance out the additions with cuts, but he said the amendment could be made later if they find recurring money.

Roll Call

6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent

Motion

Mayor Cooke stated: "Can I suggest the amendment that we look at two things and this was an item put forth by Mayor Pro Tem Shipman, and Councilmembers Carl-Mitchell and Urdy and that was the Police walking beat and I know the emphasis was on UT and I certainly don't have a problem with that. I'd like to ask that we allow the Chief some discretion in that effort, not that he won't put it at UT but focus it where he thinks the Department thinks it needs it. I would also like to consider a program that this Council unanimously supported with one time money last year and that is the Austin Incubator Program for \$50,000.00 and I would like to take that from the elimination of one bond election for \$175,000. That will give us some surplus to consider other programs. The Police program walking beat would be a continuing program but the Austin Incubator would only be for this year. I do not want to commit to it for another year. We talked about it for a three year program to get it up and running and then I would like to back away from it."

Both Councilmember Carl-Mitchell and Mayor Pro Tem Shipman said they would like more information on the Austin Incubator Program. Mayor Cooke agreed to take that out of his motion.

Motion Amended

Mayor Cooke amended his motion to deletion of the bond election in an amount of \$175,000.

Friendly Amendment

Councilmember Barnstone asked to add the horticulturist.

Discussion followed concerning the job title and duties of horticulturists.

Amendment

Mayor Cooke said, "If we are going to do that let's put the two Park's FTE's and the Forestry back in there, that basically balances it."

Roll Call on Motion with Friendly Amendments

6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent.

ROLL CALL ON MAIN MOTION

The Council, on Mayor Pro Tem Shipman's motion, Councilmember Humphrey's second, passed through FIRST READING of an ordinance approving the operating budget for 1989-90 as presented by the City Manager and amended by Council. (6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent.)

AD VALOREM TAX RATE

The Council, on Councilmember Humphrey's motion, Councilmember Carl-Mitchell's second, passed through FIRST READING of an ordinance adopting the Ad Valorem Tax Rate of \$0.5745/\$100 evaluation. (6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent.)

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

The Council, on Mayor Pro Tem Shipman's motion, Councilmember Humphrey's second, passed through FIRST READING of an ordinance approving property tax exemptions (Historic, Disabled and Elderly). (5-0 Vote, Councilmember Barnstone out of the room, Councilmember Urdy absent.)

FEES, RATES AND CHARGES

The Council, on Mayor Pro Tem Shipman's motion, Mayor Cooke's second, passed through FIRST READING of an ordinance approving fees, rates and charges as outlined in Volume II of the budget document. (6-0 Vote, Councilmember Urdy absent.)

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

The Council, on Councilmember Humphrey's motion, Councilmember Carl-Mitchell's second, passed through FIRST READING of an ordinance approving all Enterprise Funds (except Electric and Water & Wastewater) and other funds: (5-1 Vote, Councilmember Barnstone voted No, Councilmember Urdy absent.)

Aviation, Hospital, Environmental and Conservation Services,

General Services, Parks and Recreation Enterprise Funds (golf, softball, special events, tennis); Other Funds: Airport Revenue Bond Redemption Fund, Convention Center Reserve Fund, Cultural Arts Fund, Employee Benefits Fund, Utility Customer Service Office, General Obligation Debt Service Fund, Hotel/Motel Bed Tax Fund, Liability Reserve Fund, Tourism Promotion Fund, Utility Revenue Bond Redemption Fund, Worker's Compensation Fund, ACVB and Convention Center Fund.

ELECTRIC RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

Motion

Councilmember Carl-Mitchell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Nofziger to adopt Scenario C (Department recommendation) for revenue allocation dealing with relative rate of return and adoption of budget.

Discussion followed and Councilmember Carl-Mitchell said the budget should be adopted first and the revenue allocation then approved.

Question Divided

Councilmember Barnstone asked that the question be divided.

Motion

The Council, on Councilmember Carl-Mitchell's motion, Councilmember Nofziger's second, adopted the Electric Utility Budget of \$448.9-million (5-1 Vote, Councilmember Barnstone voted No, Councilmember Urdy absent.)
First Reading

Motion

The Council, on Councilmember Carl-Mitchell's motion, Councilmember Nofziger's second, approved Scenario C for revenue allocation. (5-1 Vote, Mayor Cooke voted No, Councilmember Urdy absent.)
First Reading

Motion

The Council, on Councilmember Carl-Mitchell's motion, Councilmember Nofziger's second, approved the rate design as outlined by the consumer advocate. (4-2 Vote, Mayor Cooke and Mayor Pro Tem Shipman voted No, Councilmember Urdy absent.)
First Reading

WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

The Council, on Councilmember Carl-Mitchell's motion, Councilmember Nofziger's second, passed through FIRST READING of an ordinance establishing water and wastewater rates, fees and charges for Fiscal Year 1990 with an effective date for such rates, fees and charges of November 1, 1989, as recommended by the Water and Wastewater Department. (4-2 Vote, Mayor Pro Tem Shipman and Councilmember Humphrey voted No, Councilmember Urdy absent.)

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.